

TECHNOLOGY @ ROCKY FLATS

Building Interior Powered Hydraulic Equipment

The driver for use of powered and hydraulic equipment inside buildings was improved worker safety and efficiency on materials where contamination spread could be controlled. Small hydraulic equipment was used to grasp, shear, and pneumatically hammer materials such as duct, conduit, walls, and piping to avoid manual handling. “Bobcat” vehicles were also used to support loading of masonry and other materials into waste containers. Extra industrial safety precautions were required to provide adequate ventilation for workers in rooms with the propane or natural gas-powered vehicles, and training and safety controls for equipment operation were key to their effective use.